

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PANAMA 01137 172254Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----080982 172255Z /65
P 162235Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5758

S E C R E T PANAMA 1137

STADIS//////////

EXDIS
FOR ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PN, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEMO FOR PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 040746

1. HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED MEMO AND CONCUR IN CONCLUSION THAT EARLY BUT NOT IMMEDIATE EXCHANGE OF RATIFICATION INSTRUMENTS IS BEST COURSE. THIS WOULD PROVIDE A BIT MORE TIME FOR IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING. MORE IMPORTANT PERHAPS, IT WOULD ALLOW CONGRESS TO PASS IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION AS LATE AS POST-ELECTION SESSION (I.E. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER), IF NECESSARY.

2. YOU MAY WISH TO REFLECT THREE FACTORS IN ANTICIPATING LIKELY REACTION HERE. FIRST, PANAMA WILL BE IN MIDDLE OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CAMPAIGN (APRIL-AUGUST) AND THIS WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO URGE PATIENCE. SECOND, TORRIJOS WILL BE EAGER TO DISPENSE WITH "SECOND PLEBISCITE" ISSUE BY PRESENTING OPPONENTS WITH FAIT ACCOMPLI SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIRD, TORRIJOS WILL DOUBTLESS BELIEVE THAT BEST WAY TO GET HOUSE ACTION IS TO GIVE IT A DEADLINE SOON AS WE CAN. DESPITE THE IMPATIENCE THAT WILL FLOW FROM THESE LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS, JUNE EXCHANGE MAKES
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PAGE 02 PANAMA 01137 172254Z

SENSE TO ME. MEANTIME, MY COLLEAGUES AND I WILL HAVE TO BEGIN PREPARING TORRIJOS AND CO. FOR PROSPECT OF SOME DELAY.
JORDEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, CANALS
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Draft Date: 16 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation History:
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PBOR, PN, US
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